

nodules on their roots can enrich the soil by fixing atmospheric nitrogen : for centuries the cultivators of India have been aware of the fact, although not of its explanation. and have sown these plants in association with cereals.

Much is now made of the "dry farming" which is to revolutionize the agriculture of South Africa.

This simply consists in maintaining a fine surface tilth, and so checking evaporation from the sub-soil. It is systematically practised by the ryots of Upper India, who will not sow wheat until, by repeated ploughings, the soil has been reduced to the consistency of powder. Far away across the ocean, on the treeless plateaux of Mexico and Peru there were other centres of agricultural skill, which followed lines that were curiously similar to those of Asia. The plough which is used in the uplands of Cuzco is the counterpart of one that may be seen in India, and the character of the crops and the disposition of the fields vividly recall the features of an Indian village.

Modern agriculture has generally been content to grow crops that have been grown from time immemorial although it has improved their quality greatly. It is only within the last century that tea, coffee, and cocoa have revolutionized the course of civilized diet.

To us it appears quite natural that individuals

should possess property of their own : we are disposed to scout communistic theories as vision-

ary and opposed to fundamental  
proclivities of  
human nature. Yet, judging by the  
survival of  
antiquity that may be discovered in  
laws and  
customs and in the practices of  
uncivilized races,  
we must conclude that in early times  
property  
belonged to the tribe or the family,  
not to the individual,  
and that it was originally as  
unthinkable  
that a man should appropriate things  
in private